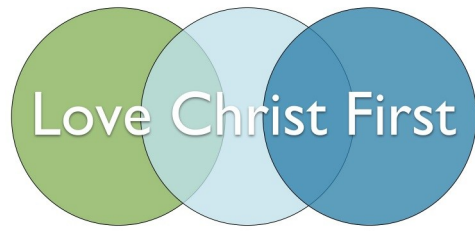




Easter Basket Mission Project



Thank you to everyone who made this project a success - those who donated items and money, the helpers who came on Saturday and/or Sunday to fill the bags, the basket 'brigade' who helped transfer the bags from New Fellowship Hall to the Sanctuary and the Tuesday Men who delivered the bags to the New Jerusalem Food Bank. And finally, thank you to Sandy Panick who headed this big project!!!!



THE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING



Mission Project for the Month of April

For over 75 years, the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering (OGHS) has been helping Christians bring God's hope and healing to hurting people both in the US and around the world. OGHS's mission is to support domestic and international development, fight poverty and its consequences, bring aid and relief to communities torn by war or ravaged by natural disaster, provide advocacy and resettlement assistance for refugees and displaced persons, and combat injustice in its many forms. OGHS provides funding and hands-on assistance in collaboration with local and international partners.

In the United Church of Christ, the Global H.O.P.E. team oversees the distribution of the offering. You can learn more about this team at www.ucc.org/global-hope.



First United Church of Christ
Pastor Becky Thomas
501 Northampton Street
Hellertown PA 18055
(610)838-8811
office@firstucchellertown.org



Keith shares his treasure during the children's Message



Marji's Children's Message was about how 5,000 people were fed with 5 loaves and 2 fishes.



Joint Service—Thursday, April 2
7 PM at First UCC

Maundy Thursday

Joint Service—Friday, April 3 — 6 PM Cross Carry starting at First UCC
7 PM Worship at Lower Saucon UCC

good friday

Easter Sunday—April 5th

10:30 AM

Mid-week Lenten Soup & Service
3-11-2026



Thank you to everyone who provided soup & bread. Also, thank you to the kitchen crew for set-up and clean-up.



"Welcome Spring" Fellowship Hour
3-22-26





The Trustees of the Remembrance Fund
have received and gratefully acknowledged

A gift given in loving memory of Karyl Laub

Betty Parsons

A gift given in loving memory of Jeanette Stoneback

Nancy Filler



Fellowship and Fundraising
First United Church of Christ Hellertown
and The Pressed Petal

Join us for a unique one-of-a-kind experience where you'll craft beautiful artwork using pressed flowers. In this NEW workshop participants will design a stunning butterfly, hummingbird or a creative design of your own.

What's included!

- Guided workshop to assist with your design
- Choice of 8x10 or 8x8 frame in black or white.
- 5x7 double glass pane in black with acrylic verse
- Assortment of vibrant, pressed flowers
- Asst mountings and stickers to enhance your art
- All supplies provided - just bring your creativity!
- Light Lunch available for purchase 11:45 - 12:30

Registration &
payment due
by April 12th



WORKSHOP DETAILS

Date: Sunday, April 26th
Time: 12:30 - 3:30

Location: First United Church of Christ
501 Northampton Street Hellertown, Pa
45.00 pp

lunch available for purchase 11:45 - 12:30
(630) 838-8811 office@firstucchellertown.org

Questions, special requests email: thepressedpetal4me@gmail.com



Saturday, May 2nd First UCC Yard & Bake Sale

(9:00 AM to 1:00 PM)

Drop-off in basement, [please no electronics (computerware) or clothing] 6:00-7:00 PM on April 30th & May 1st for yard sale items or during church office hours (April 27-May 1). Drop off for baked goods is Friday May 1st—same hours. Please present individually wrapped baked goods for sale in small increments (\$1-2-3 dollar size) as opposed to whole cake or pie (1/2 pie or cake is fine). Volunteers are needed to help on drop-off days, Friday for pricing and set-up, Saturday before, during, and after the sale. See sign-up sheets on the Narthex bulletin board.



We will begin the month of April remembering the events of Holy Week. We walk with Jesus through Jerusalem and to the cross. For me, these are the most powerful services of the church year. They are services that evoke a lot of emotion and that remind us of the cruelty of humanity. I know many of us avoid these services because they are heavy and they plunge us into darkness. But, the truth is I don't think that we grasp the full beauty of Easter if we don't allow ourselves to walk with Jesus to the cross and take a long look at the tomb.

Friends, we are a people of resurrection faith. A people who believe in new beginnings. The good news of the gospel is that God is always working in this world and there will always be new life. May this time remind us that even at our worst, we are loved more than we can measure. To me, that is the some of the most amazing news. What a fantastic reason to shout for joy with the words of the psalmist: "This is the day that the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it (Psalm 118:24)."

In light and love,
Pastor Becky



SUNDAY SCHOOL CALENDAR

Each Sunday, children begin in worship at 10:30am and are invited to class following the Children's Message. *Worship bags* are available in the coat room area for children during the service. Please remember to return the bags to the shelf following worship.

Special Dates:

Sunday, April 5 – Easter. Family worship 10:30am no Sunday School

Sunday, May 10 – Mother's Day

Sunday, May 17 – Children and Youth Sunday –

The Confirmation class and the Sunday School lead our worship service together.

End of Sunday School until August.

The **Nursery** is open for young children during Sunday worship as needed.

An adult is required to remain in the nursery when anyone under age 16 is present.

Adults may still listen to the service while in the nursery.

Contact Marji Hughes - mpughes22@gmail.com if you have any questions at all about Faith Formation at 1st UCC

Join us Online!

To view website, go to: firstucchellertown.org

To watch on Facebook, go to <https://www.facebook.com/hellertownucc> and you will see the live stream as the top post.

To watch on YouTube, go to <https://www.youtube.com/@firstucchellertown/streams>.

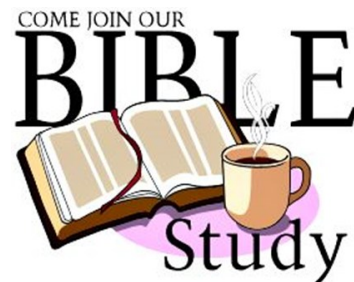
To view a playlist of our choir anthems, go to <https://tinyurl.com/FirstUCCMusicMonday>.

Coffee & Conversation

Every Sunday morning
9:45 AM
before worship
in the Wimmer Room



Sunday morning Adult Bible Study --
In the Youth Room upstairs
Sundays 9:15am
Please contact Tricia Shelly for more information, or just join us!



BIBLES AND BRUNCH

Women's Bible Study

1st and 3rd Monday of the month

10:30am

April 6 and April 20

We are reading "The Final Days, A Lenten Journey" by Matt Rawles
Don't hesitate to drop in



Confirmation class schedule:

11:30am – 1:00pm in the Youth/Young Adult Room

We are currently delving into the *Echo the Story* series that uses creative Bible storytelling to engage students and help connect the Bible to their own lives.

April 12 and April 26 we continue with Genesis.

Questions, please contact Marji Hughes or Pastor Becky

Blessing Box Schedule



Our Blessing Box Food Pantry is being used heavily. We are blessed to be able to help. Obviously, there are many in our community who are aided by your generosity. We need to replenish our emergency supply. We are very low on spaghetti sauce and we need a variety of soups and breakfast foods to keep our pantry stocked. Please—no glass jars.

- Week of Mar 29—Apr 4 — Carlann Broglie
- Week of Apr 5—11—Doug Miller
- Week of Apr 12-18 —Marji Hughes
- Week of Apr 19-25— Andy Spear
- Week of Apr 26—May 2—Lisa Fenon
- Week of May 3—9—Ann Brown
- Week of May 10—16—Sandy Panick
- Week of May 17-23—Amy Mixa
- Week of May 24—30— Phyllis Scherer
- Week of May 31—June 6—Tammie Vosburg
- Week of June 7-13—Georgie Stuempfle
- Week of June 14-20—Letty Petruno

Attention All Dart Players—April Schedule

4/6 Home vs. Trinity Edgeboro

4/13 Away @ College Hill

4/20 Home vs. Holy Cross

for anyone who is interested in joining the group,

Please contact Lisa Fenon



We are looking for Sponsors for 2026.

Sign-up sheet for **Bulletins** is posted on the Narthex Bulletin Board. Cost of sponsoring the **Bulletins** is **\$10.00/week**. The **Flower Chart** is on the door to the Church Office closet. Please stop in or call to put your name on the list for sponsoring flowers. Cost is **\$40.00/week**.

April Sponsors/Volunteers

April 2—Maundy Thursday

Ushers.....Team 1
 BulletinsMelissa & Andy Spear

April 12

Counting Team..... Team 1
 Ushers.....Team 3
 Acolyte.....Sarah Beers
 Altar Flowers.....Carlann Broglie
 Bulletins.....Doug & Brenda Miller
 Lay Reader.....Keith Lentz

April 26

Counting Team..... Team 3
 UshersTeam 5
 Acolyte.....Liam Riehl
 Altar Flowers.....Denise Keen
 Organ Flowers.....Karen Frankenfield
 Bulletins.....Sandy Belletti
 Lay ReaderBecky Rosenberger

April 5 –Easter

Counting Team..... Team 4
 Ushers.....Team 2
 AcolyteMatthew Harvey
 Altar Flowers.....Dawne Pender
 Organ Flowers.....Bob & Louise Krill
 BulletinsLetty Petruno
 Lay ReaderAndy Spear

April 19

Counting Team..... Team 2
 UshersTeam 4
 Acolyte.....Carter Mullen
 Altar Flowers...Wayne Packer & Andrea Danner
 Organ Flowers.....Janice Csrnko
 Bulletins.....Wayne & Nadine Pavlinsky
 Lay ReaderPhyllis Scherer

The April Newsletter
 has been sponsored by:
 Doug & Brenda Miller

Offerings may be made anytime electronically at www.firstucchellertown.org/give This allows you to make a one time or repeating gift from your bank account or credit/debit card. You may also elect to give directly from your bank through a Bill-Pay option or mail your gifts and envelopes to the church office. The Church office is open Monday through Friday 9am to 1 pm if you care to drop off your gifts.



NEW BETHANY HOSPITALITY CENTER BETHLEHEM

First Wednesday of every month
 10:00 AM – 1:00PM

Our monthly crew visits the soup kitchen at New Bethany Hospitality Center . First UCC is signed up for the first Wednesday of every month. Four members are needed to chop, prepare, and serve meals at noon finishing at 1:00 pm. Interested in starting a second crew or being put on a sub list??

Contact : Jeannie Miller [REDACTED] Elsie Stout [REDACTED]



Women's Breakfast at the
 Hellertown Diner
 Second Tuesday of each month– 8 AM
 April 14, 2026

*Come as you are!
 Come whenever you are able!
 First one there, grabs a table!
 Please feel free to join us!*



Tuesday Morning Men's Group
 Every Tuesday at 8:00 AM
 At the Hellertown Diner
 After breakfast they come to the church to do various jobs or projects
 All men are welcome to join this group



Holy Humor Sunday
 April 12, 10:30 worship



Bring your funny bone and your happy faces!
 Laugh in the joy of the Christian Faith
 Colorful clothes suggested to add to the joy
 of the day



Upcoming Schedule of Services

You will be notified by Facebook or One Call of any changes to the schedule listed below. If you are not receiving messages by One Call, please contact the Church Office with your contact information. If you have recently changed your email address, or phone number, please update your information in the church office. Thank you.

April 2026	7:00 PM	2	Maundy Thursday Worship
	7:00 PM	3	Good Friday Worship at Lower Saucon UCC
	10:30 AM	5	Easter Sunday Worship/Communion
	10:30 AM	12	Worship/Sunday School– Holy Humor Sunday
	10:30 AM	19	Worship/Sunday School
	10:30 AM	26	Worship/Sunday School
May 2026	10:30 AM	3	Worship/Sunday School/Communion
	10:30 AM	10	Worship/Sunday School
	10:30 AM	17	Worship/Sunday School
	10:30 AM	24	Worship
	10:30 AM	31	Worship
June 2026	10:30 AM	7	Worship/Communion
	10:30 AM	14	Worship
	10:30 AM	21	Worship
	10:30 AM	28	Worship

PRAYERFUL CONSIDERATION NEEDED

Discussions of church business should be reserved for after services on Sundays or during office business hours. Please allow our members and staff to prepare their hearts for worship.

THANK YOU

Church Office Hours: — The Office will be open 9:00 am to 1:30 pm, Monday thru Friday. Please make your calls to 610-838-8811 and conduct your business during those hours. Other calls will be recorded on voicemail. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and cooperation.

Staff

Rev. Becky Thomas, Pastor

610-297-2295

Marji Hughes, Minister of Faith Formation

Pat O'Connell, Minister of Music

Phyllis Scherer, Administrative Asst.

Tammie Vosburg, Church Treasurer

Budd Frankenfield, Sexton

Consistory Members

Email address

Phone Number

Elders

Joan Kiak

njbk77@gmail.com

Amy Mixa

athomeamy@hotmail.com

Tricia Shelly

Deacons

Karen Frankenfield

gumbycat1@gmail.com

Ashlynn Mixa

ashlynnmixa@gmail.com

Sandy Panick

hygienist2000@msn.com

Trustees

Keith Lentz--Pres.

keithlen56@gmail.com

Doug Major-Vice Pres.

pamajors@rcn.com

Wayne Packer

wayne.t.packer@gmail.com

Chip Wagner

rdmax723@hotmail.com

Like us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/hellertownucc



April Birthdays

- 4/3 Liam Riehl
- 4/3 Maleea Servedio
- 4/4 Hannah Frankenfield
- 4/8 Renate Geisinger
- 4/6 Marie Laub
- 4/8 Kyle Laub
- 4/9 Tricia Shelly
- 4/9 Mary Stoneback
- 4/10 Jorryn Kyra
- 4/10 Matthew Milliren
- 4/12 John Musgnung
- 4/12 Jan Weaver
- 4/15 Steve Kyra
- 4/15 Katie McCullough
- 4/16 Charlotte Kupstas
- 4/16 Jake Weaver
- 4/16 Elaine Wusaty



April Anniversaries

- 4/21 Bill Sabo
- 4/22 Amy Mixa
- 4/23 Larry Muldowney
- 4/27 Sandy Belletti
- 4/30 Karen Frankenfield



Put this on your calendar:

Women's Retreat

April 2-4, 2027

Stewardship of God's People at First Church

Date	Contributions	Attendance	Special Offerings	
Feb 1	\$2,742.67	55	Facility Use	\$240.00
Feb 8	\$1,827.06	36		
Feb 15	\$2,602.46	72		
Feb 22	\$2,414.03	46		
Total	\$9,586.22			
Budget	(\$16,000.00)			
Over/Short	(\$6,413.78)			

Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

Registration and more information coming soon!

Snowball Mountain Challenge

**Vacation Bible School
July 20-24, 2026!**



With God, I Am Strong!

Kids from Pre-K 3 through grade 7 are invited to an exciting winter sports event, where they become Challengers, gearing up for frosty games, snowy surprises, and hands-on lessons about resilience and faith. Guided by the Activities Director and Ollie the Arctic Seal puppet, challengers won't just play games - they will learn to draw strength from their faith through powerful stories of courage and hope. With a unique winter theme and solid theology at its



core, this VBS delivers joy and meaning in equal measure, teaching kids that "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Philippians 4:13 NRSV).

Snowball Mountain Challenge is sure to be a mountain-top experience filled with laughter, life lessons, and lasting faith where kids find their strength in God!

YOUTH GROUP BOWLING For grades 5—high school

April 12, 2026

Meet at church at 11:30 am
\$16.00 for 2 hours—includes shoes
Plus any snacks you may wish to purchase
No church affiliation is required. Bring a friend.



Questions:

Pastor Becky - pastorbecky1121@gmail.com 610-297-2295

Ashlynn Mixa - [REDACTED]

Marji Hughes - mphughes22@gmail.com [REDACTED]

Please let one of the leaders know you will be joining us!

**First United Church Hellertown
Consistory Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2026**

Call to Order: Meeting Called to order by Keith Lentz at 6:33 PM

Opening Prayer: Pastor Becky

Absent : Chip Wagner, Marji Hughes

Minutes: February 9, 2026

Motion: Approval of Minutes: Motion made by Sandy Bender and seconded by Doug Major. All in favor - motion passed.

Treasurer's Report - Tammie Vosburg

Highlights: Our YTD Net Cash Flow is negative. (\$11,619.00) February itself was negative (\$7,177) Low attendance due to snow. Our annual streaming bill was also due in February for \$1,188.00

\$5,000.00 needed to be used from our savings to meet payroll.

**Wimmer approved a one time bonus of \$1,000.00 for Bud Frankenfield. The bonus will be reflected in his next pay. A card of appreciation will also be given to him. Tammie stated that the Wimmer Committee stressed going forward we will need to include bonus funds in the budget.

Tammie said there will be a meeting on March 16th with our insurance agent to discuss ways we could lower our premiums.

Pastor's Report - Pastor Becky

Pastor Becky's report was accepted as presented.

Faith Formation Report - Marji Hughes

Highlights: It has been decided to combine the children into one Sunday School class at this time.

Fellowship Hour will be on March 22nd following worship.

Children will be singing along with the adult choir on Palm Sunday March 29th.

We need volunteers for Treasure Box Message for April and May

Marji's report was accepted as presented

Elders' Report - Amy Mixa - Our current Mission is Easter Baskets this month. Dine-to-Donate will be April 8th at Braveheart. Also we will host a Pressed Petal craft event for Fellowship and Fundraising on April 26th.

Deacons' Report - Sandy Panick - Maundy Thursday worship will be at First UCC with communion by Intinction

Trustees' Report - New lock has been installed on Phyllis's office door.

- Contract has been made with Saucon Collision towing for our parking lot offenders. Saucon Collision will be adding stickers to our current No Parking signs indicating who to call if their car is towed.
- Wayne Packer will continue to schedule our fire inspections.
- Kunsman roofing will be out this week to inspect the roof and determine how many slates need to be replaced. Any cost over our insurance deductible of \$2,000.00 will be submitted. Keith Lentz announced to the congregation the need for extra giving for the roof project and \$525.00 has already been donated.

Consistory Minutes (cont.)

Correspondence: A request has been received from the Cub Scouts to use New Fellowship on Saturday April 11, 2026. This will be for their Blue and Gold Banquet. A motion was made by Wayne Packer to allow the scouts the use of the hall, second by Sandy Panick, motion carried all in favor.

Committee Reports:

Executive Meeting: Consistory Agenda set by Keith Lentz and Doug Major

Music and Worship: Next meeting date not scheduled yet.

Safety and Security - Sandy Bender Nothing to report

Fundraising - Ashlynn Mixa—Matey's pizza sale complete. We raised \$168.00. Next up: Dine-to-Donate, April 8th at Braveheart. Also Pressed Petal Event April 26th.

Stewardship: Nothing to report

Altar: Nothing to report

Tech: Agreement was to concentrate on replacing the balcony camera for our streaming service as top priority. We put the screens/TV's on hold at this time. Consistory and Pastor Becky will discuss after Easter with congregation input on whether we will proceed with the screens.

A motion was made by Wayne Packer to ask for funds from the Wimmer account/spiritual bucket for the purchase of the new camera. Second by Tricia Shelly, all in favor motion carried.

Old Business: Pastor Becky will be meeting with HAM on March 24th to discuss the 250th celebration this July.

New Business: Letty Petrino has offered to purchase Easter Banners for the front of our sanctuary. Keith Lentz showed us the pictures and would be ordering them. A motion was made by Tricia Shelly to accept this offer from Letty. Second by Sandy Bender all in favor motion carried.

Concerns were raised about the handicap parking spaces on Penn Street during a snow Emergency in which case cars cannot park there. The discussion was to obtain 2 spots in the front of the church which would then eliminate 2 on Penn Street. However, Northampton Street is also a Snow Emergency route. Further discussion will be needed.

Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn by Ashlynn Mixa at 7:40 pm and second by Amy Mixa. Followed with the Lord's Prayer

Next Meeting: April 13, 2026 in the Wimmer Room at 6:30 pm



**Dine to Donate at
Braveheart Highland Pub
Wednesday, April 8, 2026 4-8 PM
Dine-in or Takeout**

